

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
GENERAL ORDER 16 - 0014**

The full Court met in executive session on Thursday, May 19, 2016 and approved a technical amendment to Local Criminal Rule 41, Search Warrants. This is a technical amendment and does not require publication for comment.

The Court's Rules Committee considered the rule on May 12, 2016. It recommended that the full Court adopt the proposed amendment to Local Criminal Rule 41.

The full Court considered the recommendation of the Rules Committee at its meeting on May 19, 2016 and agreed to modify Local Criminal Rule 41. Therefore,

By direction of the full Court, which met in executive session on Thursday, May 19, 2016,  
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Local Criminal Rule 41, Search Warrants, be technically amended as follows (additions shown thus, deletions shown ~~thus~~).

## **LCrR41 Search Warrants**

### **Local Criminal Rules**

**(a) Submission of warrant applications.** Except for matters that are reserved for the Chief Judge (for example, in [LCrR50.2 \(2\)](#) and [LCrR6.1](#)) and as provided in (b), applications for search warrants or seizure warrants must be submitted to the duty magistrate judge.

**(b)** A district judge may issue a standing order that search warrants or seizure warrants related to a case assigned to that judge must be brought to that judge.

**(c) Assignment of case numbers.** When an application for a search warrant or seizure warrant is approved and the warrant is signed by the duty magistrate judge, the application and warrant will be given a Miscellaneous (M) case number and be assigned to the magistrate judge who signed the warrant. except where the United States Attorney identifies the warrant as related to a criminal case that has been assigned a CR number. In such circumstances, the CR number associated with that case will be assigned to the application and warrant, and the application and warrant will be filed in that case. When a search warrant or seizure warrant is signed by a district judge as provided in (b), the application and warrant will be given the CR number of the case before the district judge and docketed in that case.

**(d) Motions to Seal.** This rule, rather than [LR 26.2](#), governs a motion to seal a search warrant or seizure warrant. A motion to seal a warrant must be brought to the district judge or magistrate judge who signed the warrant, and must specify a date no more than 90 days later when the sealing order will expire absent a further court order. Any application for delayed notice of a search must comply with [18 U.S.C. §3103](#). All filings will be unsealed upon the expiration of the sealing order.


**(e) A Motion to Extend a Sealing Order.**

**(1)** Any motion to extend an order sealing a warrant or to extend delayed notice must be brought to the district judge or magistrate judge who signed the warrant.. If a motion is brought at a time when that judge is unavailable, the motion shall be heard by the duty magistrate judge.

**(2)** The motion must be filed no later than three days prior to the expiration of the seal or delayed notice to allow adequate time for the review of the motion. The motion shall be filed electronically and a draft order must be submitted to the assigned judge's proposed order email box.

**(f) Search Warrant Returns.** The return of the search warrant must be made in accordance with the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. In addition to that requirement, the United States Attorney's Office must also electronically file a copy of the return including the inventory of property seized into the court's Electronic Case Filing System. If the application and warrant are sealed at the time of the return of the search warrant, the return of the search warrant will also be filed under seal.

FOR THE COURT

  
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Chief Judge

Dated at Chicago, Illinois this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2016